Cartoonist

by Bryan Talbot

Recommended for ages 8 and up/Written in BASIC and machine language

Create and animate your own cartoon characters

Have you ever had a secret desire to make your own movie? With CARTOONIST, you use the graphics capabilities of your ATARI Home Computer to create your own characters and put them into motion. To create a frame, you draw a character on the screen, modifying its height, width, or color--even producing its mirror image. When the character looks right, you make small changes to create additional frames. To animate the movie, you run one frame after another and the motion begins. Your character can walk, hop, slink, slither, or even fly.

Programmers can use CARTOONIST to add animated sequences to their programs, but it's so versatile that children can quickly learn to make their own cartoons. You choose which of the features to use with the program's many menus. To show you what CARTOONIST can do, the program has several movies stored, such as a unicycle rider that you can see moving in a short animated sequence.

Then try designing your own movie. First use the joystick to draw your character on a grid, adjusting the background, size, color, height or width. To experiment with the frame you've drawn, you can see its mirror image, invert the character and the background color, or merge it with another frame.

After you complete your first frame, you're ready to start editing to create more frames for your movie. While you're preparing the sequence, you can insert frames, copy them, exchange different ones, or delete the ones that don't fit. To decide how to proceed with the editing, you can scan the film and then return for more editing. When you've created all the frames, you're ready to start animating them. You can set the sensitivity of the joystick, and vary the speed of the animation. Between film editing sessions, you can save and recall films you've made. The program includes a demonstration to teach you how to add the animation sequence to your own program.

REVIEW COMMENTS

CARTOONIST is one of the best-designed animation packages we've seen. The program is useful for programmers who want to add animation to their programs, and anyone who simply wants to develop his own cartoon characters. The program's menu-driven approach makes it easy to master quickly.

REQUIRES

ATARI BASIC Language Cartridge
One ATARI Joystick Controller

OPTIONAL

One set of ATARI Paddle Controllers

ORDER INFORMATION

Media	RAM	Price	Order No.
Diskette	32K	$24.95	APX-20237